

FRIDAY, Dec. 14th, 1855.

Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr Potter presented the petition of Com. E. W. Moore; referred to committee on claims and accounts.

Mr Potter, chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, made the following reports:

The Judiciary committee have examined a bill to amend the first section of an act to provide for the appointment of patrols, and to prescribe their duties and powers—approved May 9th, 1846, and direct me to report the same back to the Senate, with an amendment which is herewith presented, and recommend the adoption of the amendment and the passage. The object of the bill is to enable the county court to appoint not more than nine in place of not more than five privates to act as patrols in each district.

Amendment—Strike out the words “district or company division” in the 15th and 16th lines of the bill, and insert “Justices precinct or district.”

The Judiciary committee have considered a bill to be entitled an act to secure the right of redemption in land sold under execution, and a majority of the committee report—that in their opinion, the passage of the bill would render uncertain and unsecure the title of the purchaser at execution sales, thereby tending to decrease the value of the property offered for sale, and of course to injure the judgment debtor. The majority therefore return the bill, and recommend that it be laid on the table.

The Judiciary committee have considered a joint resolution, proposing an amendment of the Constitution, so as to allow annual sessions of the Legislature, and direct me to return the same to the Senate, recommending that it be laid on the table. A majority of the committee appear to be of the opinion, that the objections to the present system of biennial sessions are more imaginary than real, from the fact that the Governor has the power to convene the Legislature in extraordinary session, and they think he will do so, when the situation of the country demands it: they also think that when the Legislature may deem it proper or necessary, the two Houses can adjourn to a day certain, in which case the unfinished business of the session will stand in the order of the business of the adjourned session, in the same situation in which it was left at the adjournment, thus

saving the time, great expense, and labor, necessary to bring up such business to the point where it would be left at the time of the final adjournment.

The Judiciary committee have considered a bill supplementary to an act entitled, An act to authorise the county courts to issue unconditional headright certificates, where conditional certificates have issued, and direct me to return the same to the Senate, recommending its rejection. It is believed that many frauds have been committed upon the State, under the law proposed to be extended, and the committee would recommend its repeal, but for the fact that it will expire in a few days by its own limitation.

The Judiciary committee have considered a bill to change the name of Susan P. Cannon to that of Susan P. Cook, return the same, and recommend its passage.

Mr Grimes, chairman of the Finance committee, made the following report :

The committee on Finance, to which was referred A bill making an appropriation for the per diem pay, and mileage, of the members of the Sixth Legislature, and the per diem pay of the officers of the same, report the bill back with an amendment, recommending the adoption of the amendment, and the passage of the bill.

Amendment—After "dollars" on the third line, insert "or so much thereof as may be necessary."

Mr Hill, from the committee on private land claims, No. 1, have considered the petitions of John W. Collins and Nathan W. Bush, asking for their augmentation headright, and find that in the year 1837, the applicants emigrated to Texas, bringing with them their negroes and personal property, and actually purchased land and settled in Austin county prior to the first day of Oct. 1837, and received their certificates each for 640 acres of land, the headright of a single man, under the then existing laws; that immediately afterwards they introduced their families, and have continued to reside in the county with their families up to the present time. The committee are unanimously of the opinion that the petitioners are entitled to the land now asked for, and have instructed me to report the accompanying bill for their relief, and recommend its passage.

A bill for the relief of John W. Collins and Nathan W. Bush; read first time.

Mr Whitaker, chairman of the committee on private land claims, No. 2, reported that the committee have considered the petitions of the heirs of Bradbury S. Follett, and Alex. McCulloch, and are of opinion that the petitioners are entitled to the

relief sought. They therefore report bills for their relief, and recommend their passage.

A bill requiring the Commissioner of the General Land Office to issue a certificate for 640 acres of land, to the heirs of Bradberry S. Follet; read first time.

A bill authorising the Commissioner of the General Land Office to issue to Alexander McCulloch a certificate for one-third of a league of land; read first time.

Mr Whitaker, chairman of the same committee, made the following report:

The committee on private land claims, No. 2, have considered a bill for the relief of Stephen F. Sparks, asking for 320 acres of land, claimed under an act of Dec. 30th, 1840, granting bounties to those who participated in the reduction of Bexar 1835, return the bill, and recommend its passage.

Mr Allen, from the committee on Internal Improvements, to which was referred A bill to incorporate the Trinity Valley Rail Road Company, reported the same back, recommending its passage.

Mr Bryan, chairman of the committee on education, reported back a bill to amend the first, tenth, eleventh, thirteenth and fifteenth sections of an act to incorporate Chappel Hill College—approved Feb. 7th, 1850, recommending its passage.

Mr Armstrong introduced A bill to repeal the tenth section of an act to secure the German Emigration Company, and their colonists, the lands to which they are entitled, and to adjust the liabilities of the same; read first time.

Mr Taylor of Cass introduced A bill appropriating five hundred leagues of land for the support and maintenance of common schools in the State of Texas; read first time.

On motion of Mr Taylor the rule was suspended, and the bill read second time, and referred to committee on education.

On motion of Mr Hill, Mr White was added to the committee on claims and accounts.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

Mr Weatherford's amendment to the bill to repeal the act incorporating the Mississippi and Pacific Railroad Company, having been under consideration at the time of adjournment yesterday, was taken up.

Mr Allen moved a call of the Senate:

Absent—Messrs. Scott, and White.

The House bill, to pay expenses of volunteers was read.

Mr Burroughs then offered the following amendment: And the sum of \$250 is hereby appropriated as compensation for the paymaster appointed by this act, which sum may be drawn, upon

the certificate of the Governor of the State, that the duties assigned him, have been performed.

Mr Grimes amended by adding, "which shall be in full payment of his services; accepted by Mr Burroughs.

The amendment as amended was then rejected, bill read a third time, and passed.

Mr Taylor of Fannin moved a suspension of the call of the Senate; carried.

Mr Armstrong offered an amendment to Mr Weatherford's amendment: Strike out "Brazos," and insert "Colorado."

Mr Potter moved to lay the amendment and the amendment to the amendment on the table; carried by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Bryan, Burroughs, Caldwell, Doane, Grimes, Guinn, Hord, McCulloch, Maverick, Millican, Palmer, Pirkey, Potter, Russell, Scarborough, Scott, Taylor of Cass, Taylor of Fannin, Whitaker, and Wren—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Armstrong, Flanagan, Hill, Lott, McDade, Martin, Truit, Weatherford and White—9.

Mr Potter then offered the following amendment:

Provided, That the passage of this act shall not be construed to repeal, or do away with the reservation of land created by the act entitled, An act to provide for the construction of the Mississippi and Pacific Rail Road—approved Dec. 21st, 1853, and said reservation is hereby expressly retained and held.

Mr Taylor of Fannin moved the indefinite postponement of the bill and amendment.

Mr Armstrong moved a division of the question; lost.

Mr Armstrong moved to adjourn till 3 o'clock P. M.; lost.

Mr Millican moved to adjourn till 3 o'clock P. M.; lost.

Mr Taylor of Fannin's motion to indefinitely postpone the bill and amendment; carried by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Bryan, Caldwell, Doane, Guinn, Lott, McCulloch, Martin, Maverick, Millican, Palmer, Pirkey, Potter, Russell, Scarborough, Scott, Superviele, Taylor of Cass, Taylor of Fannin, Whitaker, and White—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Armstrong, Burroughs, Flanagan, Grimes, Hord, Pedigo, Truit, Weatherford, and Wren—9.

Mr Allen, chairman of the committee on enrolled bills, made the following report:

The joint committee on enrolled bills have examined a bill entitled, An act to allow Clinton Thompson, a minor, to take possession and control of his estate, and to transact business as though he were of full age, and find the same correctly enrolled, properly signed, and that on yesterday it was presented to the Governor for his approval.

On motion of Mr Martin the Senate adjourned until 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Senate met—roll called—quorum present.

The first reading of the code of civil procedure, was resumed.

On motion of Mr Weatherford the rule of the Senate devoting the evening session of the Senate exclusively to the consideration of the code of civil procedure, was suspended.

Mr Weatherford introduced a bill to define the reserve in the 14th section of an act entitled, An act to provide for the construction of the Mississippi and Pacific Rail Road Company; read first time.

On motion of Mr Weatherford the rule was suspended, bill read second time, and referred to committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr Pedigo introduced a bill for the relief of Samuel Rowe; read first time.

On motion of Mr Grimes, the resolution offered by him on yesterday, changing the rule of the Senate requiring a bill to be read on two several days before reference, was taken up and adopted.

On motion of Mr Guinn the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15th, 1855.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present. The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr Potter presented the petition of Stephen Whitney, referred to the committee on Public debt.

Mr Palmer presented the petition of the heirs of James M. Rose, referred to the committee on private land claims No. 1.

Mr Palmer also presented the petition of the citizens of Harris county, referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr Potter chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, made the following reports.

The Judiciary committee have considered the joint resolution proposing an amendment to the constitution of the State, and direct me to return the same to the Senate and earnestly recommend its passage. The object of the proposed amendment is to adopt a fixed system in relation to our public domain, which shall make it available to the State as an educational and Internal Improvement fund. It gives four years, within which all the demands against the State for land, are to be liquidated.